

Remarks

The Examiner has objected to the specification “for containing references to sequences without also identifying them by the sequence identifier assigned to them in the sequence listing”. The Specification has been amended to include the sequence identifier numbers in Figures 6A-6D as well as in the description of Figures 6A-6D on pages 3-4.

Claims 2-12, 14, and 37 are currently pending in the application and the Examiner has indicated that they are allowable. Claim 9 is currently amended to include the organism *Pseudomonas syringae*, which was inadvertently left out of the list in claim 9. The corresponding amino acid sequence was, however, included in claim 10 (SEQ ID NO.:70).

Sequence Listing

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawal of the objection to the Sequence Listing.

Drawings

Applicants thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of the previous objection to the drawings. In response to the new objection to the drawings, Applicants have amended the drawings as described above to include the sequence identifiers assigned to them in the sequence listing.

Claim Rejections

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawal of the rejection of claim 37 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 37 under 35 USC §102(e). Applicants also thank the Examiner for withdrawal of the rejection of claims 37, and 1-14 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, since one skilled in the art would understand that CoaX proteins are distinct from CoaA proteins, align with other known CoaX proteins and complement the temperature sensitive CoaA in *E. coli* YH1.

As set forth by the Examiner (for the CoaX proteins depicted in Figure 6) “CoaX proteins are proteins with pantothenate activity and that, when aligned with the other sequences as shown in Figure 6, share the identifying characteristics indicated in that Figure” and further for those proteins depicted in Figure 6 “a CoaX protein is interpreted as having each of the conserved residues identified with a ‘*’ in Figure 6, and a conservatively substituted residue as indicated in the other marked positions.”

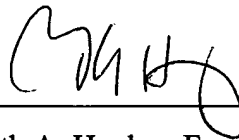
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would expedite prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

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Appendix